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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Kazutoyo MAEHIRO

Appl. No.

: 09/820,539

Filed

: March 29, 2001

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Group Art Unit: 3713

Examiner: Aaron L. ENATSKY

Confirmation No.: 4166

For

: GAME MACHINE, SERVER SYSTEM, INFORMATION SERVICE

METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 220 20th Street S. Customer Window, Mail Stop <u>Amendment</u> Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on May 7, 2002, Applicant hereby submits a copy of a Notice of Reasons for Rejection (together with an English language translation of the same) from the Japanese Patent Office that was mailed on June 8, 2004, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-351909, in which the following documents were cited:

ASAKAWA, S., "New Business Style Generated by Sametime, Searching For Real-Time Collaboration", Lotus Notesmagazine, Japan, SOFTBANK Publishing Inc., No. 32, pp. 44-56, June 13, 1999, along with a partial English translation.

08/09/2004 LWDNDIM1 00000014 09820539

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"A Great Fashion of Easy Communication. Go with Instant Message!,"

INTERNET Magazine, Japan, Impress Corp., No. 58, pp. 206-221, November 1, 1999, along with a partial English translation.

YABU, A., "A Convenience Tool which is Possible to Have "Now" in Common, Try a Topic ICQ" INTERNET Magazine, Japan, Impress Corp., No. 39, pp. 294-301, April 1, 1998, along with a partial English translation.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the Japanese Examiner applying Japanese rules to the Japanese claims are set forth in the Notice of Reasons for Rejection.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached hereto and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Further, Applicant notes that since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of an Office Action on the merits, Applicant has included herewith a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. \$1.17 (p). However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any necessary additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not

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more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. Of course, this statement does not apply to information that has previously been cited by Applicant or the Examiner in the present application as that information is already of record and no certification is necessary.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Kazutoyo MAEHIRO

Fyn. N. 40,063

Bruce H. Bernstein Reg. No. 29,027

August 5, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.